

Subject to order or not, the Adamant did not lie passive. Every gun on board which could be sufficiently depressed was made ready to fire on the crab. The crabs were not to be taken by surprise. The large boats furnished with machine guns, grapnels, and with various appliances which might be brought into use on a steel-plated roof, were lowered from their davits and immediately directed to fire on the crabs from the crabs. Their machine guns were loaded with small shells, and if these penetrated under the horizontal plates of a crab and through the heavy glass which was supposed to be in the front of the hatch, the submerged craft would be soon destroyed.